

Ears to Hear (Bilingual)

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[0 : 00] I'm still learning to preach, so I would appreciate any feedback that anyone might have for me after the service.

Let us pray before we begin. Heavenly Father, may Your Word feed us today, so we may grow into the full stature of Christ, in Jesus' name of the earth.

Well, in today's passage, Jesus is teaching a large crowd.

It's so large, the crowd comes in and almost immerses them. But Jesus actually has to hop onto a boat and teach them from the sea.

The first thing that Jesus teaches them is the parable of the soul. If you've been paying attention to the sermons preached before today, you'll notice that this is actually the first parable recorded in the gospel of Mark.

[1 : 28] Before we go on to explain the meaning of this parable, let us first examine what Jesus had to say in verses 10-12.

And we will then see why it is actually this parable. 10-12 Where is that all?

When he was alone, those who were around him, along with the twelve, asked him about the parable. And he said to them, So you have been given the secret of the kingdom of God. But for those outside, everything comes in parable, in order that they may indeed look, but not perceive, and they indeed listen, but not understand, so that they may not turn again, and be forgiven. Woe to those who see, but do not see, and hear, but do not hear, so that they may not understand. So why did Jesus teach him parables?

[2 : 51] I had always thought that he did so, to make him easier to understand. A parable should be a made-up story, designed to teach a lesson to the comparison.

The word parable actually comes from a Greek word, which I'm not quite fully pronounced, which means comparison, illustration or analogy.

So when you hear this story, we should be able to relate it to our own life, and understand the meaning behind it.

But here, Jesus seems to be using it for another purpose. He's using it to keep information from the crowd, so that they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, ever hearing but never understanding, otherwise they might turn and be forgiven.

I don't know how that strikes you, but it makes me ask, Why would Jesus do this?

[4 : 35] Isn't he full of compassion? Full of grace? Doesn't he want people to be forgiven?

But why doesn't he make himself clearer? Why does his speech compare?

It's a confusing. Well, because Jesus uses the parable to divide and judge those on the outside for their rebellion against him.

If you've been with us for the

last few weeks, and our last few sermon, to mark, you remember that there's a rising tide of oppositions against you, he's been questioned about the past few weeks, rebuked for breaking the Sabbath law, and even accused of relying on the devil, In fact, by chapter 3 verse 6, they were talking to kill him, for Jesus' parables were meant to divide those against him, from those who want to follow him, In fact, in later part of chapter 4, we'll see that Jesus did not teach at that place with anything but terrible, when he's alone with his disciples, but he's doing everything, and now I'll ask you to show your picture, so, back when I was younger, which is not that long ago, we have these 3D magic eyes, does anyone know what we've done? a few of you, this means you're as old as me? so what they are, for those who don't know, is that these pictures of us look like a random pattern, quite magical, the problem is that, if you never follow to learn the proper way to look at the picture, you will never see a hidden image, by the way, for those who are crossing your eyes, be the original picture, those who really care, will come to know the truth, not so much because they understand the Bible, but because they care enough to ask what it means afterwards, and also hang around long enough to explain to me, for those who are against Jesus, the parables would not mean anything to them, because they would use them more, remember, even the disciples didn't understand the power of the right first, but they asked what Jesus meant after the power left, they had a soft and open time, understanding is an issue of the right, those who have a hard heart, those who have close eyes, and close ears, they won't understand it, although Jesus divides the crowd with this public story, it isn't meant to stay a public forever, by explaining the parable to these disciples,

[10 : 53] Jesus ensures that the message is passed on to us, Indeed we can read the explanation for ourselves, right here in the Bible, to understand it, it will have used to fear, it's very important for us to understand this parable, Jesus says in verse 13, Do you not understand this parable?

Then how will you understand all parables? This parable is significant because it describes the four ways that someone can respond to God's word, In other words, we can only understand God's word, we choose to respond appropriately, Before we even begin to examine these responses, we must understand that in all these four cases, the sower, that is the person spreading the word of God, does not change,

